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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/494,761	01/31/2000	Hyeon Jun Kim	P-082	3903

34610 7590 03/26/2003

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EXAMINER

SHERALI, ISHRAT I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2621	

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No. <b>09/494,761</b>	Applicant(s) <b>Kim</b>
	Examiner <b>Ishrat Sherali</b>
	Art Unit <b>2621</b> 

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 31, 2002

2a)  This action is FINAL.      2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

4)  Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claims 1-26 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a)  approved b)  disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of:

1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

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***Election/Restriction***

1. Restriction to one of the following invention is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claim 14-26, drawn to a method of an image data structure in which a feature of an image are expressed at different resolutions, classified in class 382, subclass 240.

II. Claims 1-13, drawn to a method of an image search in which color similarity between a reference image and target image, classified in class 382, subclass 165.

2. Invention are distinct, each from the other because of the following:

Invention I and II are related as combination and subcombination (Invention I being the combination, and invention II being the subcombination). Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or other combination (MPEP § 80-6.05 (c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the details provide for in claims 1-13 are not recited in claims 14-26. The subcombination has separate utility such as searching an image in the database based on the color similarity between the target image and the reference image (image in the database).

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purpose as indicated is proper.

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3. Application is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

***Contact Information***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Ishrat Sherli whoes telephone number is (703)-308-9589. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30 -5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone number are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Boudreau can be reached on (703)-305-4706. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)-872-9314 for regular communication.

Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-4750.



Ishrat Sherli

Patent Examiner

Group Art Unit 2621

March 21, 2003



PHUOCTRAN  
PHUOCTRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER